

Remarks

The above amendments are being made in order to eliminate all multiple dependency from the application. Should any multiple dependency remain, that is intended, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is requested to cancel any remaining multiple dependent claims without prejudice before calculation of the application filing fee.

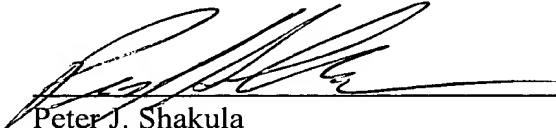
The International Preliminary Examination Report reaches the conclusion that the claims meet the requirements of novelty and inventive step (nonobviousness). It is submitted that the same should occur in the U.S.A.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required to complete the filing of this Application, or credit any overpayment involved, to the Deposit Account No. 12-0913 of the firm of the undersigned Attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

26 Sept 2001
Date


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